

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 15-25 are pending herein. Claims 1-14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer in favor of new claims 15-25. The following table shows the relationship between claims 1-14 and new claims 15-25.

Original Claim	New Claim
1-4	15
5	16
6	17
7	18
1,8	19
9	20
10	21
11	22
12	23
13	24
14	25

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicants thank the PTO for indicating that claims 4-7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 4 has been cancelled in favor of new claim 15, which incorporates all of the limitations of cancelled claims 1-4. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claim 15 and pending claims 16-18 and 21-25, which ultimately depend therefrom, define patentable subject matter over the prior art and thus are in condition for allowance.

1. The rejection of claim 1 under §102(b) over Samuel [sic, Woolsey] is noted, but deemed moot in view of the cancellation of claim 1 in favor of new claims 15 and 19.
2. Claims 8-13 were rejected under §103(a) over Woolsey. The PTO argued that "it would have been obviously/inherently recognized by one having other skill in the

art to realize that the second switch must be operated in some manner of time so as to provide the stored energy from the inductor (2) to the load" (Office Action, section 4).

Claim 8 has been cancelled in favor of new claim 19 which includes all of the limitations of cancelled claim 1. To the extent that this rejection might be applied against new claim 19, it is respectfully traversed.

Pending claim 19 recites, among other things, a high voltage pulse generating circuit comprising a first switch having one end connected to the first output terminal of a DC voltage source, and a series circuit including an inductance and a second switch being connected in parallel with the branch circuit, wherein energy stored in the inductance is commutated to a load by turning the first and second switches off, and wherein the second switch is turned on again after turning the second switch off to discharge energy remaining in the circuit.

Therefore, the operation of turning the second switch on again is not to provide stored energy from the inductor to the load but to discharge energy remaining in the circuit following discharge of the inductor through the load. This feature accommodates the situation where the impedance of the load is too high for the stored energy to be dissipated through the load in the amount of time desired. This feature is supported in the specification in paragraphs [0024] and [0032], for example.

Applicants respectfully submit that Woolsey simply does not disclose turning the second switch on again after being turned off to *discharge energy remaining in the circuit*. There also is no suggestion in Woolsey of this feature of the present invention.

Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that pending claim 19, and claim 20 which depends therefrom, define patentable subject matter over Woolsey and thus are in condition for allowance.

3. The rejection of claim 14 under §103(a) over Woolsey in view of Applicants' alleged admitted prior art is noted, but deemed moot in view of the cancellation of claim 14 in favor of new claim 25.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the PTO is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance as soon as possible.

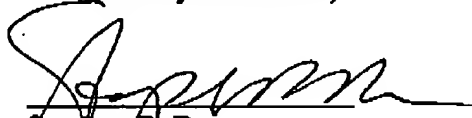
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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